

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIMA 06215 302314Z

70

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 CU-05 AID-20 OPR-02 SCCT-02 A-01

M-02 OMB-01 DRC-01 NIC-01 /116 W

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O P 302255Z JULY 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1204

DOD FOR DIA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY QUITO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY

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EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, PE

SUBJECT: PRESS TAKEOVER SPARKS ANTI-GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATIONS

1. SUMMARY: ANTI-GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATIONS TOOK PLACE IN LIMA RESIDENTIAL SUBURBS NIGHTS OF JULY 28, 29 AND ARE CONTINUING TODAY. REPORTEDLY THERE HAVE BEEN OVER 200 ARRESTS BUT FEW SERIOUS INJURIES.

2. JULY 30 GOVERNMENT-OWNED NUEVA CRONICA REPORTED THAT "FOR FIRST TIME IN THE PEACEFUL BOURGEOIS HISTORY OF MIRAFLORES (UPPER-MIDDLE CLASS DISTRICT), VIOLENT YOUTHS SMASHED WINDOWS AND SET FIRE TO A NEWLY ACQUIRED MUNICIPAL BUS. CRONICA NOTES DAMAGE DONE TO AERO-PERU VEHICLE, GOVERNMENT SUPERMARKET AND GOVERNMENT BANKS. IT CONTINUES, THESE ACTS OF TERRORISM COINCIDE WITH TRAFFIC DISORDERS LED BY ASSUMED FORMER SYMPATHIZERS OF FORMER PRESIDENT BELAUNDE AND THE OWNERS OF THE CONFISCATED DAILIES, WHO SPREAD THROUGH THE MOST OPULENT SECTIONS OF THE CAPITAL

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CAUSING TRAFFIC TAMS.

3. DEMONSTRATIONS CONTINUED TODAY IN MIRALFORES, WHERE TWO CARS WERE REPORTEDLY BURNED. THERE IS MUCH TALK THAT BIG DEMONSTRATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE TONIGHT IN MIRALFORES.

4. COMMENT: DEMONSTRATIONS ARE CLEAR REACTION TO GOVERNMENT TAKE OVER OF DAILIES, WHICH HAS INCENSED LIMA MIDDLE CLASS. SO FAR, THESE DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE BEEN MORE NEWSWORTHY THAN SERIOUS. PROBLEM WOULD GROW FOR GOVERNMENT IF RIOTS WERE TO SPREAD FROM THE RESIDENTIAL AREAS TO EITHER DOWNTOWN LIMA OR THE PROVINCIAL CITIES OR IF APRA WERE TO BRING ITS WELL-ORGANIZED POLITICAL FORCES TO BEAR ON THE SITUATION.
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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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